



Assuring Quality Care for Animals Signature Program

Purpose

Assuring Quality Care for Animals merges Ohio's mandated Youth Food Animal Quality Assurance program with animal handling, care and welfare, expanding the scope of current curriculum to address the critical issues of quality assurance, food safety, and animal welfare. Components of this program raise public awareness of the importance of animal handling, care, and welfare in farm animal production, as well as the companion and performance animal industry.

Impact

According to the 2014 Ohio 4-H Youth Development Statistical Report, 36.6% of Ohio's 4-H projects taken by 4-H members are animal projects. Of the 98,896 animal projects, approximately 67,800 are food animal projects, 21,000 companion animal projects, and 10,000 performance animal projects.

A Quality Assurance (QA) pre-post- survey was administered in 54 counties to more than 15,000 total youth during counties' QA trainings. Of the 54 counties, 53 reported 4-H members increased their knowledge of care, management, and handling of animals as a result of the trainings.

The 2014 Assuring Quality Care for Animals Signature Program In-service was held in November. The purpose of the in-service was to (1) provide updates on the Signature Program, (2) familiarize Extension professionals about issues facing Ohio's animal industry, (3) provide updates on educational programs and animal industry issues, and (4) certify individuals to teach Youth Quality Assurance in 2015.

- 155 participants attended from 4-H, ANR, FSC, Senior Fair Boards, Agriculture Education, and Agriculture Industry
- 142 were trained to teach Youth Quality Assurance
- 90% of the participants in the Ethical Decisions Related to the Welfare of 4-H Animals session plan to use the information presented, including ideas for best practices
- 86% of the participants in the Using Antibiotics Responsibly session said they plan to follow best practices for antibiotic use in food animals



Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

OSU Extension:

4-H Youth Development
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
Community Development

Community Partners Involved

Agricultural Commodity Groups
Agriculture Education and Ohio FFA
Ohio Department of Agriculture
Ohio Fair Managers Association
Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

Assuring Quality Care for Animals programs are delivered through Quality Assurance training in all 88 Ohio counties.

Contact

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Assuring Quality Care for Animals
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